

# The Sourdough

S E N T I N E L

March 18, 2005

Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska

Vol. 56, No. 11

## Nowhere else on earth...

*Last Great Race in Last Frontier  
just one more unique experience  
for Elmendorf Airmen*



--Pages 12-13



STAFF SGT. SUE NUCKOLLS

## National Prayer Luncheon

Brig. Gen. Michael Snodgrass, 3rd Wing commander, thanks Bishop Richard Higgins, a retired Air Force colonel, for his speech themed “It’s Tough Out There,” during the National Prayer Luncheon at the Susitna Club March 11. The event was first established in 1942 by the U.S. government, and it occurs every year as a way of recognizing the moral and spiritual values upon which this nation was founded, as well as all the civic leaders and leaders of the Armed Forces.

# Action Line



Brig. Gen. Michael Snodgrass  
3rd Wing Commander

Do you have a problem you can’t seem to get solved? Would you like to recognize someone for a job well done? The commander’s action line is your avenue to communicate your questions, comments and concerns directly to the commander, Brig. Gen. Michael Snodgrass. Your calls will get the commander’s personal attention and be answered in a timely manner.

If you have a question, call or e-mail the action line at:

**552-2224**  
**actionline@elmendorf.af.mil**

The following commanders stand ready to help you and can answer the majority of your questions. If they can’t help, then please call the Action Line.

**Key phone numbers:**

Col. Christopher Thelen, 3rd CES/CC  
552-3007  
Lt. Col. David Aupperle, 3rd SVS/CC  
552-2468  
Lt. Col. Robert Garza, 3rd SFS/CC  
552-4304



■ **Staff Sgt. Larry Williams II**, 3rd Component Maintenance Squadron, displayed outstanding skill and initiative when he identified a wire chafing on two F-15 conformal fuel tanks.

He created a low-cost solution to prevent chafing, coordinated repair authorization and integrated procedures for the modification of 28 additional conformal fuel tanks.

His expertise and attention to detail saved the Air Force \$7,500 in parts replacement costs and was lauded by depot engineers.

■ **Staff Sgts. Michael Hamm, David Trujillo, David Gonzalez and Tony Adams, and Mr. Ray Wales**, 3rd Logistics Readiness Squadron, coordinated with the propulsion flight to use their borescope cameras so they can do the inspections on base.

Refueling maintenance spends an average of \$1,350 to have R-11 baffle inspections and tank pressure tests contracted through the Testing Institute of Alaska.

However, their efforts led to the reduction in price of \$500 for a tank pressure test and led to the Air Force savings of \$17,000 on 20 R-11’s.

■ **Tech. Sgt. Michael Jackson**, 90th Fighter Squaron, was instrumental in completing the 90th Fighter Squadron’s annual inventory.

During this process he found 36 items valued at more than \$92,000 that were missing.

Sergeant Jackson worked 14 hour days and weekends searching through several storage locations since much of the squadron’s equipment was in storage during a major construction project.

He fully accounted for the equipment and instituted a revised tracking program.

■ This week’s commander’s shadow is **Airman 1st Class Joshua Baird**, 3rd Wing Command Post.

## New phone company

**Q**: Sir, I am contacting you to say I was happy to see a mobile phone company move into the community center. It is such a convenience. They have good customer service, and I was looking to start a new cell phone plan with someone other than a portable booth in a mall that usually is gone the next week.

However, I am writing because we were told that the company has been told to move out at the end of the month. What’s going on?

We are first given a great service and now for whatever reason the Army and Air Force Exchange Service doesn’t want them there. If it’s

a competition issue then let the other companies move in as well so there is competition.

I think this is wrong to let them move in, get us hooked on the convenience of it, and then tell them to leave.

Is someone in AAFES themselves not happy with them and it is a personal issue or is there real justification for kicking them out? I think the issue needs to be looked into and I feel that they should stay.

I have never walked by and not seen customers there. That should be an obvious clue that a needed service is being provided. Thank you.

**A**: I certainly agree that a mobile phone outlet on Elmendorf would be an attractive option to

many folks. AAFES agrees as well and has been pursuing the approval of a contract that would enable a firm to offer such services on the installation.

By Air Force Instruction, AAFES is the primary agent for concessionaire-managed services. Because we failed to give AAFES the “first right of refusal” according to our services AFIs, we were forced to terminate the mobile phone outlet.

We regret the closure, but the good news is that AAFES is planning to open a similar outlet on or about May 1. The outlet will not only offer a convenient telecommunications option, but also generate additional revenue that will help support quality of life programs in our military community.



**The Sourdough**  
SENTINEL

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**Best in DoD 2000**

**Best in Air Force**

**1999, 2000 & 2001**

**Best in PACAF**

**1998, 1999, 2000 & 2001**

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## 3rd Wing Moment in History



**F-4C, 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing, Kunsan Air Base, Korea**

### March 15, 1971:

The Air Force reassigned the 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing from Bien Hoa Air Base, Vietnam to Kunsan Air Base, South Korea, and equipped the wing with F-4 Phantoms.

# Base youth participate in Operation Topcover

*Mock deployment helps children learn more about what their parents do*

**By Capt. Eric Badger**  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

For the second time in approximately five months, about 250 Elmendorf youth participated in Operation Family Topcover, a mock deployment held Saturday at the Old Commissary building across from the People Center.

The simulation was sponsored by the Elmendorf Integrated Delivery System Care Team, Elmendorf Officers’ Spouse Organization, and Armed Services YMCA to give base youth a better idea of what their parents do to prepare for deployment, according to Ms. Jena Bienia, Family Support Center director.

“These events help children and spouses understand why their loved ones deploy, what deploying members go through and why it’s so important,” she said. “When family members understand the process, it helps them cope.”

The base support agencies provided on the deployment line included the Family Support Center, Life Skills, Family Advocacy, Red Cross, Chaplains, 3rd Medical Group and the Child Development Center.

The 3rd Security Forces Squadron set up a tent and allowed children to don deployment gear and sit on a 3rd SFS all-terrain vehicle. For the first time since Operation Topcover’s inception last year, 3rd SFS placed the M-2, AR-249 and M-240 military rifles on display, which turned out to be one of the event’s most popular attractions.

“My favorite part was learning about the guns,” said Joshua Hadden, son of Master Sgt. Gary Hadden, First Term Airman Center superintendent.

Twelve-year-old Joshua said he would like to deploy just like his dad someday, but he knows it won’t be easy.

“It has to be difficult to live in



**Rylee Lunsford carries gear similar to what her father might find himself carrying in a deployed environment.**

those tents with about eight other people, and carry around all of that equipment,” he said.

Operation Topcover II included free family photographs, t-shirts, and food as well as deployment handbooks, coloring books and pamphlets for all ages.

“Operation Topcover has done an

excellent job of integrating information for adults with fun and educational literature for the youth,” said Ms. Susan Fallon, Family Member Program Flight chief. “This event truly has something for everyone.”

According to Ms. Bienia, Operation Topcover is scheduled to occur on a quarterly basis.



PHOTOS BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS GARRETT HOTTHAN

**Lance Dorn, 3, gets into a defensive fighting position with an M240G in the Old Commissary building during Operation Topcover II Saturday. His father Army Capt. Daren Dorn is currently deployed to Iraq.**

# Giving ‘Gift of Life’ becomes easier than ever

**By Master Sgt. Tommie Baker**  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

Elmendorf officials recently signed an agreement with Blood Bank of Alaska to oversee base blood collections. The Blood Bank of Alaska is the principal supplier of blood and blood products to more than 90 percent of the hospitals in Alaska.

The agreement allows the Blood Bank of Alaska to recruit and conduct blood drives on Elmendorf in exchange for blood and other blood products to be used for routine and emergency treatment of patients at the 3rd Medical Group and Bassett Army Community Hospital in Fairbanks.

Since signing the agreement, the Blood Bank of Alaska and Elmendorf have hosted two successful blood drives.

The first drive was conducted at the hospital and was primarily supported by members of the 3rd MDG.

The second, and much larger, base blood drive was held February 28th at the Arctic Oasis Community Center.

According to Ms. Wendy Perrell, Blood Bank

of Alaska recruitment manager, 113 people showed up and 86 units of blood were collected.

Each unit of blood donated can be processed into three different life-saving products; red cells, plasma and platelets.

“What a wonderful contribution to the community,” said Mr. Jack Williams, Blood Bank of Alaska chief executive officer. “The units donated could potentially save up to 282 lives.”

To support the military and the hospital patients the Blood Bank of Alaska serves, donors are needed on a regular and consistent basis.

Blood drives are scheduled to be held on Elmendorf on the last Monday of every month, with the exception of May 23, Aug. 15 and Dec. 19. These regularly scheduled drives will be held in the Arctic Oasis Community Center from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Unit blood drive representatives have lists of common health conditions or medications that may prevent you from donating. According to the BBA, servicemembers are deferred from donating blood for one year upon return to the states from duty in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Each base unit also has the option of holding

a drive at their various locations throughout the base.

According to Maj. Dave Lincoln, 3rd MDG chief, clinical laboratory services, the plan is to have one base-wide blood drive and several unit-level drives per month.

“This partnership is the first of its kind in Alaska and represents a huge step toward ensuring the availability of blood products for military and civilian hospitals in the state” said Major Lincoln.

“As we grow in our collections and our relationship strengthens, our goal is to conduct drives at Fort Richardson and with our Fairbanks military communities,” said Ms. Perrell. “We are proud to serve our military communities as they proudly serve us throughout the world.”

So, take the time to roll up your sleeves and save a life! To make an appointment to donate at the next blood drive, March 28, contact your unit blood drive representative or base blood program officer, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Veronica Acker at [veronica.acker@elmendorf.af.mil](mailto:veronica.acker@elmendorf.af.mil), or 1st Lt Graham Davey at 552-2267 or [graham.davey@elmendorf.af.mil](mailto:graham.davey@elmendorf.af.mil).

# Knowing how to deal with moose is a must this season

By Mr. Jon Scudder  
3rd Wing Public Affairs, Enviromental

Elmendorf’s wildlife agents have responded to a number of calls concerning community members having close encounters with moose this season.

As a result of these encounters, officials urge the base populace to exercise caution and awareness whenever going outside.

As docile as they may appear, moose are unpredictable and potentially dangerous wild animals, according to Greg Schmidt, natural resources planner.

“This is a tough time for moose, because we are on the tail end of a long winter,” Mr. Schmidt said. “Moose that are hungry and have been recently harassed are a potential threat. For that reason, it is especially important that dogs be kept on a leash and prevented from chasing moose.”

“A moose can deliver a powerful kick with its front legs—the equivalent of being hit with a baseball bat,” Mr Schmidt said. “We need to be cautious this time of year, and into calving season in May. Cow moose are very protective if they think their calves are threatened.”

Although the local moose population has injured no one on base this year, the potential for

a disastrous encounter is very real. Ten years ago, a 71-year-old man on the University of Alaska-Anchorage campus was stomped to death by a cow protecting her calf, according to news reports.

Students had been throwing snowballs and shouting at the moose prior to the unsuspecting man’s unfortunate encounter, the reports said.

Schmidt said the best way to prevent an unpleasant encounter with moose is to keep your distance. “Don’t treat them like pets, and certainly don’t feed them,” Mr Schmidt said. “If you are surprised by a moose, it’s best to calmly move away.” He also recommended that parents advise their children to avoid walking through densely wooded areas where visibility is poor. Wooded areas are ideal resting and feeding places for moose. Children should also be warned not to throw snowballs for other objects at moose. Doing so can result in a fine.

Pet owners need to do their part. “Avoid walking dogs near a moose,” Mr. Schmidt said. “You don’t know if that moose had a recent experience with a dog, and may charge.” Mr. Schmidt also recommended that pet owners ensure that their dogs chained outside have a doghouse to retreat into if a moose attacks.



COURTESY PHOTO

**This moose takes a break in someone’s front yard in base housing.**

The bottom line is, moose should be left alone. Base regulations and state law prohibit feeding and the harassment of wildlife. If caught, a federal magistrate’s citation will be issued to the violator, resulting in a fine. In addition, if anyone is injured or has property damaged as a result of the crime, the individual can be held responsible.

For more information or to report sightings, call the natural resources office at 552-2436 or Security Force at 552-3421.

# Airman receives nonjudicial punishment for underage drinking

- An airman first class from the 732nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron was found to be drinking underage. His punishment was a reduction to the grade of airman, 30 days restriction to base, and 30 days extra duty.
- An airman first class from the 732nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron failed to obey a no contact order. Her punishment was a reduction to the grade of airman, forfeiture of

- \$150 pay per month for two months, 30 days restriction to base and 30 days extra duty.
- A staff sergeant from the 732nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron failed to obey a no contact order and committed adultery. His punishment was a reduction to the grade of senior airman, suspended forfeiture of \$350 pay per month for two months and 45 days extra duty.
- A staff sergeant from the 962nd

- Airborne Air Control Squadron failed to report for duty on time. His punishment was a suspended reduction to the grade of senior airman.
- An airman first class from the 3rd Wing was derelict in her duties when she failed to show up to a training formation. Her punishment was a suspended reduction to the grade of airman, 15 days restriction to base, and 30 days extra duty.

- An airman first class from the 3rd Equipment Maintenance Squadron was derelict in his duties when he fell asleep while on duty and when he was late for duty. His punishment was a suspended reduction to the grade of airman, forfeiture of \$200 pay per month for two months, 15 days restriction to base, 15 days extra duty and reprimand.
- (Courtesy of the 3rd Wing Judge Advocate Office)*

# Child care provider saves infant's life

**By Staff Sgt. Ryan Mattox**  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

Last month, tragedy was avoided when a Family Child Care provider rushed to the aid of an infant suffering a grand mal seizure and saved his life. This happened while the child was under her care in her home on Elmendorf.

During lunch with the children under her care, Mrs. Kimberly Woodward, wife of Tech. Sgt. Kurt Woodward, 381st Intelligence Squadron, was feeding an 8-week-old infant, when his eyes suddenly rolled toward the back of his head and he started convulsing. The infant's color went from pink to blue and his body went limp.

Mrs. Woodward immediately checked for his pulse and to see if he was breathing, however, she could only find a faint pulse, and the baby was not breathing. She began using her training to clear his airway and then began rescue breathing. She called out to her husband, who was sleeping after working a mid-shift.

"After letting him know what was happening, he immediately rolled over and called 911, while I continued to monitor the infant's pulse and give rescue breathing," said Mrs. Woodward. "After my husband let me know that the ambulance was on its way, I went downstairs into the play room to make room for the emergency medical technicians to work on the infant."

"In addition to breathing for the infant, I had to make sure to clear his airway, because he had vomited during

the seizure and I did not want to further complicate matters by forcing anything back down his airway. I made sure to keep his head slightly elevated until the EMTs got here," Mrs. Woodward said.

After the EMTs arrived on scene, Sergeant Woodward then tried calling the infant's mother, as well as the other parents, to let them know what had happened and that Mrs. Woodward would be escorting the baby to the emergency room. He also kept the other four children in their care calm and out of the way of the EMTs until they left in the ambulance.

To limit the stress on the other children, since they were asleep when this all happened and were awakened by the sirens and the emergency personnel on scene, FCC coordinator Mrs. Loretta Morgan and training monitor Mrs. Lisa Dalton also went to the house to help children and waited until their parents arrived to pick them up.

"In the event of a true emergency, such as Kim experienced, providers are instructed to call 911, notify our office and notify the parent," said Mrs. Morgan. "Kim called our office while her husband was on the phone with 911, and two people from our office left immediately for her home and arrived while the EMTs were still there."

Mrs. Woodward was a licensed EMT in Chicago for two years, and has received annual infant/child cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and first aid training through the FCC.

Her husband is a former self-aid buddy care instructor and is certified in both Red Cross standard first-aid



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS GARRETT HOTHAN

**Mrs. Kimberly Woodward, licensed home day care provider and spouse of Tech. Sgt. Kurt Woodward from the 381st Intelligence Squadron, cares for toddlers in her home March 10.**

and adult CPR.

As part of an FCC provider's initial training, they're certified in standard first aid and adult/infant/child CPR, which is updated annually.

Since 2002, Mrs. Woodward has been providing care to infants and

toddlers in her home. She's a developmental-licensed home day care provider and FCC provider since 1995.

For more information about becoming a FCC provider, call 552-3995/4664.



SENIOR MASTER SGT. ROBERT ORRILL

**Tech. Sgt. Gregory Eckroth**

**Duty title:** 611th Civil Engineer Squadron electrical foreman  
**Hometown:** Bloomsburg, Pa.  
**Hobbies:** Hiking, camping, hunting and fishing  
**How he contributes to the mission:** Provides electrical support at forward deployed locations as well as remote radar sites in Alaska  
**Time at Elmendorf:** Three years and six months  
**Best part of being in Alaska:** The vast openness and ability to get off road and never run into another soul  
**Supervisor’s comments:** “Sergeant Eckroth’s knowledge of the electrical field has eliminated hazards in Alaska’s remote radar sites that if left unattended would have caused 100 percent mission failure. He motivates the younger troops and is an outstanding noncommissioned officer.” Capt. John Costello



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS DEJUAN HALEY

**Staff Sgt. Johni Mak**

**Duty title:** 3rd Aerospace Medical Squadron bioenvironmental engineering craftsman  
**Hometown:** Atchison, Kan.  
**Hobbies:** Scrapbooking and volleyball  
**How she contributes to the mission:** Administers base respiratory protection program and provides occupational health risk assessments for base personnel, and guidance and training on gas mask fit testing  
**Time at Elmendorf:** Two years  
**Best part of being in Alaska:** The summer sun  
**Supervisor’s comments:** “Sergeant Mak’s commitment to the job, mission and community sets the standard for all to follow. Her hard work and dedication is an excellent asset for our Air Force.” Tech. Sgt. LeDonna Scheurer

### Boniface Gate closure

The outbound lanes at Boniface Gate will be closed for canopy repairs Tuesday-March 27. The Boniface Gate inbound lanes and the Visitor Center will remain open as usual. To facilitate after hours departure, outbound lanes at Muldoon Gate will be open 24/7, inbound lanes will be closed at normal times. For more information, call Mr. Robert McElroy at 552-1601.

### Manager’s training

The 3rd Civil Engineer Squadron will conduct mandatory facility manager’s training Wednesday at the Base Theater from 8-9:30 a.m., 10-11:30 a.m. or 1-2:30 p.m. The training is for all assigned primary and alternate facility managers, including tenant units. For more information, call 552-3449/3727.

### Flu vaccine

The 3rd Medical Group has doses of flu vaccine remaining for any beneficiary six months and older regardless of risk history. The Immunizations Clinic hours are 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information call 580-5812.

### AFAF campaign

The Air Force Assistance Fund “Commitment to Caring” campaign is currently underway. During this time, Airmen can contribute to any of four official charitable organizations. The charities benefit active-duty, Reserve, Guard, retirees, surviving spouses and families. See your unit AFAF representative to make a donation. For more information, visit the web campaign web page at [www.afassistancefund.org](http://www.afassistancefund.org).

### Suicide prevention

All military and civilian members are required to attend one of the following briefings at the Base Theater to satisfy their annual suicide awareness training requirement: Wednesday at 3 p.m., April 11 at 3 p.m. and Apr. 13 at 7:30 a.m.

### Holy Week 2005

The following is a schedule for Holy Week 2005:

■ Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Mass of the Passion of our Lord (Catholic) in Chapel 1; 5 p.m. Mass of the Passion of Our Lord (Catholic) in Chapel 2

■ Thursday: 7 p.m. Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper (Catholic) in Chapel 1, includes washing of the feet; 8:30 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (Catholic) in Chapel 1

■ March 25: Noon showing of “The Passion of the Christ” in Chapel 1; 3 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion (Catholic) in Chapel 1; 6:30 p.m. Showing of “The Passion of the Christ” in Chapel 1; 8 p.m. Good Friday Service (Protestant) in Chapel 1

■ March 26: 7 p.m. Easter Vigil (Catholic) in Chapel 1

■ March 27: 7 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service (Protestant) in Chapel 1; 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Mass (Catholic) in Chapel 1; 5 p.m. Easter Sunday Mass (Catholic) in Chapel 2; 6 p.m. Fellowship and Praise Service (Protestant) in Chapel 1

### Cope Deployment

The Cope Deployment program offers activities for youth Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Youth ages 5-11

can enjoy pizza as well as various arts and crafts, including candle making, ceramics at the Skills Development Center. Youth ages 12-18 can enjoy ice-fishing and lunch at Hillberg Lake. Fishing equipment and licenses will be provided if needed. Call 552-8529 for more information.

### ESPEAK helps

The Enlisted Spouses of Elmendorf Alaska, ESPEAK, is more than a social group; it’s a group of men and women, from various units who support the base by volunteering, providing financial assistance and offering educational briefings for their members.

From providing financial support to the First Term Airman Center to volunteering at the children’s health fair at the hospital, ESPEAK helps out where it can. For more information, or to volunteer, call Mrs. Donna Baker at 868-1193 or Mrs. Suzie Rennie at 622-4102.

### Chess tourney, clinic

The Thunderbird Open Chess Tournament is April 9 at 9:30 a.m. at the Arctic Oasis Community Center. Registration is from 8:30-9:00 a.m. for \$5 for ages 6-12 and \$10 for ages 13 and up. Participants must be members of the U.S. Chess Federation.

### Airman’s Attic

The Airman’s Attic is doing a clothing inventory reduction and will be open to all ranks through March. The Airman’s Attic is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday and April 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is located in Denali Hall. For more information, call, call 552-5878.



## Chapel Schedule

### Catholic Parish

- Monday through Wednesday and Friday Mass: 11:30 a.m. at the Chapel Center
- Thursday Mass: 11:30 a.m. at the Hospital Chapel
- Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m. at Chapel 1
- Sunday Evening Mass: 5 p.m. at Chapel 2
- Confession: 6 p.m. Sundays at Chapel 2

### Protestant Sunday

- Liturgical Service: 9 a.m. at Chapel 2
- Celebration Service: 9 a.m. at Chapel 1
- Gospel Service: noon at Chapel 1
- Fellowship Praise: 6 p.m. at Chapel 1

### Religious Education

- Catholic Religious Education: Sunday at 9 a.m. at the Chapel Center.
- Protestant Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. at the Chapel Center.

For more information, call the Chapel at 552-4422.

# Top 5 Enlisted Issue #2 — Airmen’s education

**By Chief Master Sgt. Tim Carroll**  
3rd Mission Support Group

This is the third in our series covering Elmendorf’s Top 5 enlisted issues. This week covers issue #2, Professional Military Education.

The primary mission of the Elmendorf Professional Military Education center is to provide world-class leadership and supervisory education to enlisted professionals preparing to become non-commissioned officers, as well as those seasoned noncommissioned officers who may soon become senior NCOs.

With a staff of 17 personnel, the center conducts simultaneous Airman Leadership School classes for senior airmen, and Noncommissioned Officers Academy classes for technical sergeants; a unique arrangement that requires all instructors to maintain qualification in both schools.

Air Force requirements are for senior airmen to complete the ALS before sewing on staff sergeant. Proudly, we can say no senior airman has gone into

a promotion withhold status due to seat availability in recent years in spite of the high promotion rates. In fact, we will exhaust all remaining staff sergeant selects this May leaving two classes before the next promotion release. The NCO Academy is a different story; the Air Force has established a goal of two years time in grade for all technical sergeants graduating the NCO Academy.

Unfortunately, the average graduate from our school is just at three years time in grade. Your PME Center staff has been working hard to reduce this average and recently have made in-house modifications to the facility that will open up an additional classroom.

This extra classroom will enable us to eliminate the backlog of technical sergeants waiting for school in just two years and put this much-desired training in the hands of more supervisors sooner.

Even though the PME Center is more than just a building, one of the most frequently discussed issues is what will happen when the current facility is demolished to make room for the next phase of

dormitory construction on Elmendorf. That construction will take place in 2007 driving the PME Center to relocate. There is much to be done to prepare for this move, nothing more important than finding a place to move to. A permanent facility is planned for FY ‘08 and unless accelerated funding becomes available, your PME Center will go into temporary quarters. Currently the 3rd Civil Engineer Squadron in conjunction with the PME staff and the 3rd Mission Support Group, is evaluating several options for that temporary location. Rest assured, the mission of educating our enlisted force will not be impacted while we navigate this upcoming course.

Enlisted PME is the cornerstone of the professional development of our enlisted force and remains a top priority of senior leaders here at Elmendorf and throughout our Air Force.

By staying in focus with the Top 5 Enlisted Issues of the 3rd Wing, PME continues to get the attention it deserves.

Please contact me by e-mail or phone if you have any questions or recommendations on this subject.

## Contract holds Dedicated Crew Chiefs to highest standards

**By Senior Airman Austin May**  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

When an Air Force pilot takes to the skies, he or she must be able to dedicate their full attention to flying the aircraft, and know beyond the shadow of a doubt that their plane is solidly beneath them. They have to trust the team of maintainers who keep their plane flying, and perhaps more importantly, they must have total faith in the plane’s crew chief. For this reason, there’s the Dedicated Crew Chief program.

In a contract signed by all dedi-

cated crew chiefs at the 90th Fighter Squadron, DCCs are hailed as the “first-level supervisors in the flight line management structure.”

The contract states that the objective of a DCC is to provide continuity/accuracy of aircraft forms, aircraft status, scheduled maintenance, and improve aircraft cosmetics, which offers longevity to aircraft and has the potential to save the Air Force unnecessary expenses through preventative maintenance measures.

To become a DCC, according to the contract, one must be a staff sergeant or higher, have at least six months

experience working on an airframe, and have a maintenance Air Force Specialty Code, however this can be waived by the 3rd Maintenance Group Commander.

Although the signing of a contract is not necessarily required throughout the Air Force, a formal appointment ceremony is mandatory per Air Force Instruction 21-101. According to Chief Master Sgt. Martin Page, 90th Aircraft Maintenance Unit maintenance superintendent, the contract lasts as long as the person is a dedicated crew chief.

“The Dedicated Crew Chief title is a job description and a duty title that

is not necessarily affiliated with an AFSC,” Chief Page said. “We wanted to have a contract signed to show how important this job is and so that all of our crew chiefs could better understand their duties.”

Recently, 18 newly designated crew chiefs from the 90th AMU signed their contracts and were assigned their individual aircraft. According to the contract, they were selected for the position based on their initiative, management and leadership abilities, and technical knowledge, regardless of specialty. The contract states that these people should be the “best maintainers.”

# Airman learns there is method to madness, after all

By Senior Airman Austin May

3rd Wing Public Affairs

I did what a lot of the enlisted folks in the military did. Graduated high school, took a few short months off, and came straight into the service. No college. No idea what was going on. I had never lived on my own, never had to pay my own bills, never really had to fend for myself. Then as I stepped off the bus in San Antonio, something dawned on me.

I was out. I was on my own, moving away from home, starting a career, and ultimately beginning my adult life. I was free.

Or so I thought. Actually, I knew coming in that my life wasn't really all the way mine at the beginning. I expected the strict routine and constant monitoring at basic training, and had an understanding of how tech school would be.

Certain aspects of tech school bothered me, and some still don't make sense to this day. Why I wasn't allowed to have my room window open while I was in it is still beyond me, but I'm sure they had their reasons. Phases, curfews, and liberties seemed annoying but understandable.

I was in tech school at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. on Sept. 11, 2001. So naturally a lot of those liberties were taken away, and it seemed unfair. After all, I didn't do anything wrong.

"Why should the students be locked down?"

"For your safety," they said.

"How come the rest of the base is allowed out?" I asked.

"You're an Airman."

"So are some of them." Soon I learned that the less I questioned authority, the more sense things started to make, and the more freedoms were awarded to me. Life pressed on.

Exactly one year and seven bases from the day I nervously stepped off the bus at Lackland AFB, I left my final tech school base and headed for Elmen-dorf. This is it, I thought. I'm finally free. By this time I was 19 years old, and ready to settle in. I had traveled all over the country for training, and I was

tired of carrying my life in a duffel bag. I was the only one of my class to be selected for Alaska and was eager to plant my feet somewhere.

For the first few months, dorm life wasn't so bad. I was allowed to have a telephone in my own room. Cool. I could have Internet, and cable TV. Awesome. I had to make my bed every day. Ok. I had to eat every meal at the chow hall or pay out of pocket. What?

All of a sudden, things didn't seem right. I couldn't cook a grilled cheese sandwich in my room. If I wanted a paintball gun, I had to sign it out from the armory every time I wanted to play. As I said, I was only 19, so the prohibition of alcohol in the dorms didn't bother me, but my neighbor was 28 years old. I could imagine his pain.

I received my letter to move off base a relatively short time after getting here, but I knew I wasn't ready to live on my own. I wanted to, but common sense kicked in, as it sometimes does, and I stayed in the dorms for almost two years.

I went to the desert for four months, came back, and continued living in the dorms. Of course, I couldn't cook in my room, but I could buy groceries if I wanted to! Ramen noodles and I became very well acquainted. As a result I slowly learned how to buy groceries for a single person. The rules were starting to do their job, but I didn't notice.

A few months later, I finally moved off base. I moved in with a friend who had just gotten out of the dorms and was setting up a brand new apartment. We were both still pretty young, and had next to nothing. We were in that phase when garage sale furniture looks like something on a showroom floor, and dollar store dishes are an amazing bargain.

Friends would PCS, and I would acquire a crock pot here, a used futon there. Stuff I needed, and was happy to accept second, or maybe even third-hand. Eventually I moved into my own place, and when I looked around at my apartment, I was surprised by what I had accumulated in such a short time. My furniture had some dents and scratches in it, not all my silverware matched, and my glasses all had the logos of different restaurants screen-printed on

them, but I was living on my own. It had only taken three years. That is when I had a revelation.

All this time, while I silently questioned every rule that had been thrown at me, I was actually learning. I use coasters on my table, because life in the dorms had subconsciously taught me to appreciate furniture, and treat it well. In the dorms, I was careful with the furnishings so I wouldn't have to pay for damages. But now, it's because I've gotten into the habit of respecting my belongings. I wash my dishes, because for the last three years I could've gotten in trouble if I didn't. It has become routine.

I cook, because finally I can. I got used to not drinking in my place, so I don't, and don't miss it. I'm considerably quiet, because I hated it when the guy next door played his bass so loud I could feel it. I have learned what it means to live responsibly, even if it has been subliminally forced.

There is a reason for every rule in the books. We, as a military, fight for freedom. It is the very foundation on which this country was formed. Some of us may wonder why, if we are the very ones fighting for the right to live as we please, are we denied that right from the very beginning?

The truth is, we have to learn how to handle those freedoms. As children, we had specific bed-times, and we always wanted to stay up past them, not understanding that we would inevitably be tired the next day. But as we grow, we are no longer told when we have to go to bed; we just know.

The same concept applies to us as Airmen. As many times as we hear it, and as much as we don't want to listen to it, the rules and regulations are there for our benefit. The ones who write them, believe it or not, were once in our boots. They understand what we need to learn, when we need to learn it, and how it's learned the best.

They know we are the ones who will eventually take their places. If this organization is to remain the world's greatest air force, it has to be left in responsible hands. Those hands are ours, and right now they may still be unsteady, but as time goes by they will become firm and ready to take on the tasks that lie ahead.

# Arctic Life

Great living in the great land

## Environmental group plans electronics recycling

*Non-profit agency seeks volunteers to help collect more than 300 tons of equipment*

By Mr. Jon Scudder  
3rd Wing Public Affairs, Environmental

Mark your calendars — Green Star, a local non-profit environmental group, has announced the details of its upcoming 2005 Electronics Recycling Event.

So whether it's those old electronics replaced by Santa Claus, or those old monitors replaced by flat screens, this event is a sure way to save some cash and help save the environment.

The drop-off date for for households April 30th, and private businesses, agencies and non-profits is set for April 29th. The event precedes Anchorage's Annual City-wide Clean-Up week, May 1 – 7, and will be held at the old Federal Express warehouse located at 3444 Old International Airport Road in Anchorage.

"With technology upgrades coming quickly these days, disposal of electronics in the landfill is a growing concern," said Mr. Sean Skaling, Green Star executive director. "Fortunately, electronics can be easily diverted from landfills, and either

reused or recycled into new products.

Electronic devices accepted for recycling include items such as televisions, computers and associated peripherals, VCR/DVD players, stereos, phones, fax machines and other similar circuit-board related products.

Not accepted are smoke detectors, loose batteries, vacuum cleaners, and other household electric appliances without circuit boards.

Businesses, government agencies, schools, and households will be charged a small recycling fee to offset program costs. This fee has yet to be determined.

Rates for 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organizations will be subsidized by the Rasmuson Foundation. However, "Last year's two-day event was a whopping success, collecting a total of 610,695 pounds (305 tons) of electronics from 251 businesses and 1,445 participating



COURTESY PHOTO

**Base volunteers collect various electronic equipment, mostly computer-related, and bundle them on a pallet as part of last year's recycling efforts which collected more than 300 tons of material.**

households," added Mr. Skaling.

In fact, he said the results of the 2004 Electronics Recycling Event were highlighted at the National Recycling Coalition's annual Congress as the largest single electronics recycling collection event held in the U.S. to date, topping Denver's drive of 250 tons of electronics.

"Compared to the 280,328 pounds (140 tons) collected the previous year, this was an overwhelming increase," said Mr. Skaling. Electronic materials were brought in by businesses and residents from Anchorage, the Mat-Su Valley, and other far-flung areas such as Fairbanks, Seward, Glennallen, and Ketchikan.

He added that if you have equipment that's serviceable but isn't ready for the landfill, Green Star offers an interactive web exchange to list unwanted items for donation to a third party. Visit the Alaska Materials Exchange at [www.greenstarinc.org](http://www.greenstarinc.org).

"This is a simple way to find a match and keep useable equipment out of the landfill,"

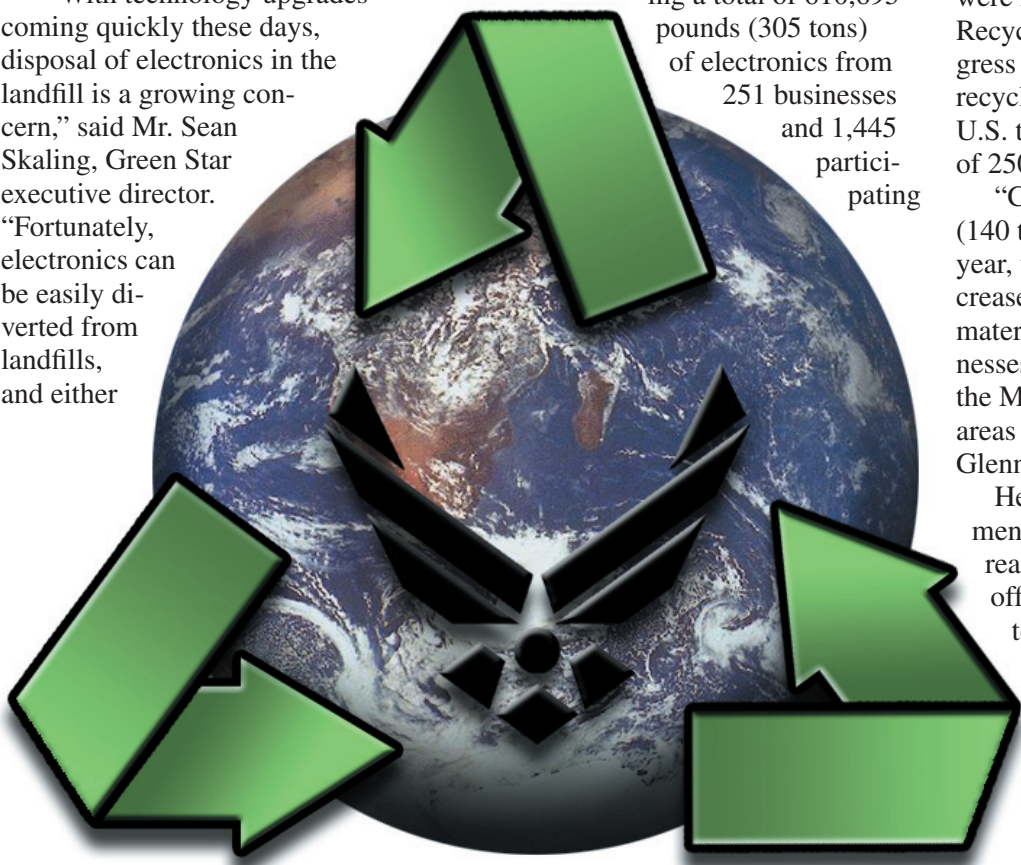
said Mr. Skaling.

For those interested in volunteering at this year's event, Green Star is looking to Elmendorf to lend a helping hand.

"We couldn't do this event without volunteers. As this event is getting larger, we need more and more people who can help in this worthwhile project," said Green Star program director Jeanne Carlson, volunteer organizer. "The more volunteers we have, the more efficiently we can process the materials."

Those interested in volunteering can call Ms. Carlson at 278-7839 for shift details. Volunteers, including forklift operators, are needed for the two days of the event as well as several days before to help set up and pre-process some materials. Clean up assistance will be needed after the event.

For more details about this event, electronics recycling in general, or other Green Star programs, visit their web site at [www.greenstarinc.org](http://www.greenstarinc.org).



Chief Master Sgt. Timothy Carroll,  
Commandant Elmendorf PME Center

### Unit Spotlight Professional Military Education Center

#### MISSION:

The Professional Military Education Center houses both the Airman Leadership School and the Noncommissioned Officer Academy and conducts both classes simultaneously. The ALS and NCOA prepares up and coming noncommissioned officers and senior noncommissioned officers for increased leadership and supervisory responsibilities. With curriculum provided by the College for Enlisted PME that includes lessons in The Profession of Arms, Leadership and Management, and Communications, the PME Center builds enlisted supervision and leadership through quality education.





TECH. SGT. KEITH BROWN

A pair of Iditarod race dogs wait anxiously in the starting gate for the clock to begin. Their final destination is the finish line in Nome, Alaska.

### Iditarod highlights

The following are facts and figures on Anchorage's famous Iditarod dog sled race:

- **Date:** The Iditarod began with its first race in 1973 and is the longest dog sled race in the world. The race always begins on the first Saturday in March.

- **Cost:** The entry fee is \$1,750 and \$400,000 is given away in prize money with \$50,000 going to the first place winner.

- **Distance:** The distance of the race is a symbolic figure — 1,049 (A thousand mile race in the 49th state). The actual mileage of the race, however, is closer to 1,200 depending on the route taken. It usually takes the teams between 9 and 14 days to complete.

- **Checkpoints:** There are more than 27 checkpoints along the trail, the first in Anchorage and the last in Nome. Twenty of the checkpoints require the mushers to sign in and are where each musher's 2,500 pounds of dog food has been distributed. At each checkpoint, a veterinarian is stationed to provide care to the dogs.

- **Routes:** There are two routes, a northern and a southern. The trails alternate each year.

- **Teams:** The teams average about 15 dogs in size, which means that more than 1,000 dogs leave Anchorage for Nome each year.

For more information about the race, go to the Iditarod race Web site at [www.iditarod.com](http://www.iditarod.com).



TECH. SGT. KEITH BROWN

Above: Capt. Barley Baldwin, 12th Fighter Squadron and volunteer for the Iditarod, helps lead a team of race dogs to the starting line.

Right: Staff Sergeant Michele Klein, 3rd Security Forces Squadron, sings the National Anthem before the start of the race.



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS GARRETT HOTHAN



TECH. SGT. KEITH BROWN

Airman 1st Class Philip Shepard, 381st Intelligence Squadron, gets an up-close view of one of the Iditarod racing dogs March 5 during the ceremonial start of the Iditarod in Anchorage.



MRS. KATHY COOK

The Petzold family (shown left), family of Maj. Thom Petzold, an University of Alaska Anchorage Air Force ROTC instructor, watches as a few Iditarod racers pass by March 5. Military members and their families were at the event cheering on and assisting the racers.

# Exchange rate, please!

By **1st Lt. Tony Wickman**  
Alaskan Command Public Affairs

**ACROSS**

- 1. USAF plane equipment
- 6. Owned
- 9. Alias, in brief
- 12. Karshi-Khanabad AB host country currency
- 13. Bagram AB host country currency
- 15. R&B group \_\_\_\_ Hill
- 16. The Greatest
- 17. NBA player Ming
- 18. Sn on periodic table
- 19. Charged particle
- 20. Djibouti currencies
- 22. Greek letter
- 23. Treebeard of Lord of the Rings was one
- 24. Confederate general
- 25. Bickers
- 27. Incirlik ABs host country currency
- 30. Donkey
- 31. Fury
- 32. Manas AB host country currency
- 35. Missing work crime under UCMJ

- 38. Actress Redgrave
- 40. North Bay AS host country currencies
- 44. Separate
- 45. Air sovereignty operation since 9/11, in brief
- 46. Void
- 47. Golf score
- 49. Steak sauce
- 50. Guidons; for military units
- 53. Exclude
- 55. Drone
- 56. I Like \_\_\_\_; presidential slogan
- 58. Tuzla AB host country currencies
- 61. Card game
- 62. Old Air Force slogan, \_\_\_\_ High
- 63. Mining goal
- 64. Orange/Yellow result
- 66. Football scores, in short
- 67. Soto Cano AS host country currency
- 68. Mil. field meal
- 69. NYC time zone
- 70. Org. managing 32 DOWN
- 71. Misawa, Yokota and Kadena ABs host country currency

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F	U	S	S			S	O	R	E	R		A	S	T	A

Last week’s solution

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	47	48									49			
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55				56		57		58				59	60	
61				62				63				64		65
66				67								68		
69				70								71		

**DOWN**

- 1. Crazy \_\_\_\_ loon
- 2. \_\_\_\_ of Mexico
- 3. Prince
- 4. Western actor John
- 5. These can clash
- 6. Dislike intensely
- 7. Singer Bryant
- 8. Balad, Tallil and Kirkuk ABs host country currency
- 9. Goodbyes, in another form
- 10. Thule AB host country currencies.
- 11. Female relatives
- 14. Visage
- 21. Pie \_\_\_\_ mode

- 26. Animosity
- 27. Actress Tyler
- 28. Ret. account
- 29. Cartoon \_\_\_\_ & Stimpy
- 32. Military ID
- 33. Rumsfeld office symbol
- 34. Chinese chairman \_\_\_\_ Zedong
- 35. Bustle
- 36. Osan ABs host country currency
- 37. Bullring cheer
- 39. Ramstein, Spangdahlem, Aviano, Moron ABs host countries currency
- 41. Mil. address starter
- 42. Dog star \_\_\_\_ Tin Tin
- 43. Sault \_\_\_\_ Marie

- 47. RAFs Alconbury, Lakenheath, Mildenhall, Molesworth and Croughton country currencies
- 48. Close, but no cigar
- 49. Noah’s vessel
- 50. Canal
- 51. Al Udeid AB host country currencies
- 52. Open and blue ender
- 53. Actress Roseanne
- 54. Regions
- 57. Actress Thompson
- 58. Drudge
- 59. Branch of DoD
- 60. Aircrew survival training, in short
- 65. Liar



# Eagle Eyes: You may make difference in war on terror

**By Special Agents Renea Dunn and Traci Wallace**

*Air Force Office of Investigation, Det. 631*

“Eagle Eyes.”

You see the phrase on the Commander’s Channel. You see it in lights on the base marquis. You see the flyers posted around the Elmendorf community. You read about it in the *Sourdough Sentinel*.

How many times have you asked yourself “What is Eagle Eyes?”

Eagle Eyes is an anti-terrorism initiative that enlists the eyes and ears of Air Force members and citizens in the war on terror.

It is an Air Force program for Air Force bases and the communities that surround them. Nationwide responsibility for countering terrorism rests with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Air Force Office of Special Investigation works in a cooperative effort with the FBI to interdict terror attacks on or near Air Force installations, because that’s where our people and resources reside.

The Eagle Eyes program starts with educating people about typical activities terrorists engage in to plan their attacks.

Armed with this information, anyone can recognize elements of potential terror planning when they see it.

In addition, the program provides

a network of local, 24-hour phone numbers to call whenever a suspicious activity is observed.

History has shown that every terrorist act is preceded by observable activities. Law Enforcement officials, to include AFOSI Special Agents, cannot be everywhere, all the time.

The Eagle Eyes program relies on you to remain vigilant.

Only you know your neighborhood. Only you know your workplace. Only you can identify what seems out of place in your environment.

Pre-attack indicators may include surveillance, elicitation, tests of security, acquiring supplies, suspicious persons out place, dry runs, and deploying assets.

Recognizing and reporting these activities plays a vital role in deterring potential attacks.

Upon notification of suspicious activities, AFOSI investigates the matter and alerts the intelligence and law enforcement communities of potential threats.

In addition to investigating the report, AFOSI publishes suspicious information through Department of Defense Threat And Local Observation Notices, also referred to as “TALONs.”

TALONs also alert military

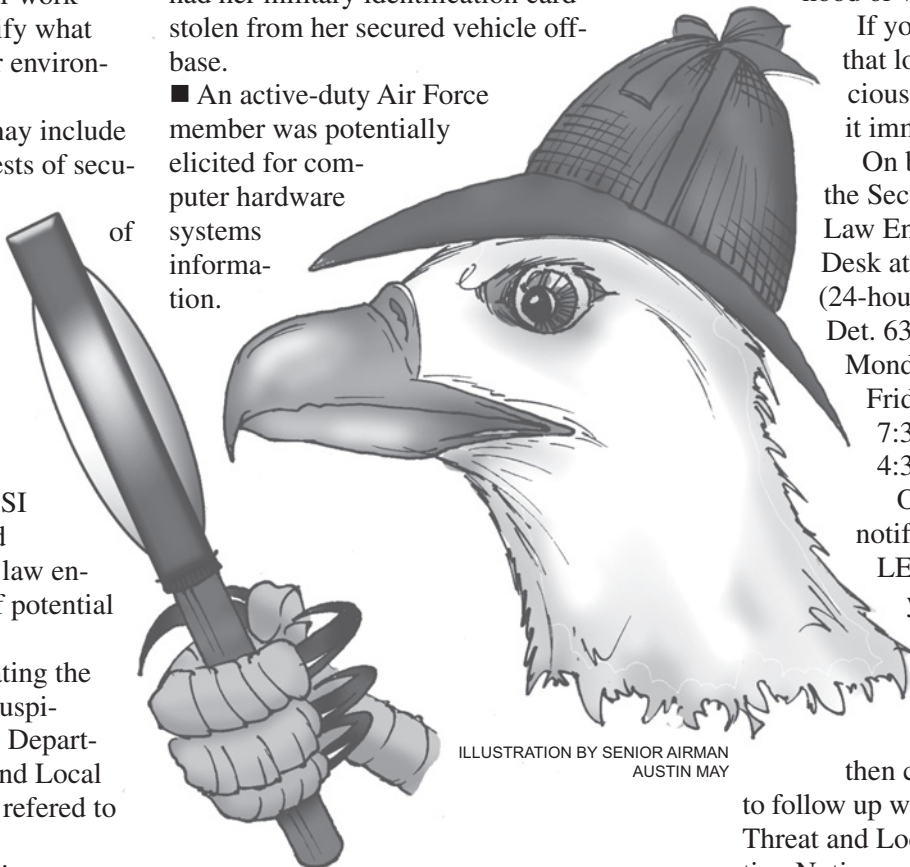
commanders and staff of potential terrorist activity or apprise them of other force protection issues reported in their area.

The following are brief summaries of the TALONs produced by AFOSI, Det. 631 during the last quarter:

■ Active-duty Air Force member had his battle dress uniform stolen from his unsecured vehicle off-base.

■ An active-duty Navy member had her military identification card stolen from her secured vehicle off-base.

■ An active-duty Air Force member was potentially elicited for computer hardware systems information.



■ An active-duty Air Force member had his vehicle with a vehicle decal stolen off-base.

■ A test of security was attempted on Elmendorf.

■ An Army retiree had his vehicle with a vehicle decal stolen off-base.

Bottom line, only you know who or what belongs — or doesn’t belong — in your building, neighborhood or work center.

If you see anything that looks suspicious to you, report it immediately.

On base, notify the Security Forces Law Enforcement Desk at 552-4444 (24-hours) or AFOSI, Det. 631 at 552-2256 Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Off-base, notify your local LE agency first if you require immediate response to an incident,

then contact AFOSI to follow up with a Defense Threat and Local Observation Notice.

# SPORTS NEWS



PHOTOS BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS GARRETT HOTHAN

**Mr. Sam Weatherford, a member of the Blacksheep Bowmen Archery Club and director of the Alaska National Field Archery Association, notches an arrow for release during a Blacksheep Bowmen meeting Thursday in the Old Community Center.**

## Blacksheep are practicing all year

**By Senior Airman Amy Morrisette**  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

Archery may not seem like a difficult sport. It may not even be considered a mainstream sport, but like any sport, archery is a discipline. Archers must be able to perform each shot in the same fashion over and over again.

It's called "practice," a discipline that Elmen-dorf's Blacksheep Bowmen know plenty about said Mr. Markus Doerry.

"We meet every Thursday, sometimes more for certain members, and work on our stance, grip and release. It's like practice competition except we don't give away prizes," said Mr. Doerry.

Mr. Doerry is a teacher at Bartlett High School, who recently placed in a bowhunter freestyle indoor competition. He has been a member of the Black-sheep Bowmen for a year now.

"When I first joined, I just wanted access to a good quality range at a good price," said Mr. Doerry. "The Blacksheep have their own building and tools for their members to use and to check out."

What's more, the club also gives their member's 24-hour access to the range, seven days a week.

Mr. Doerry said now that he's a member, he's gained more than what he initially intended. "There's a lot of interaction and a lot of people willing to help you out. It's generally a pretty warm atmosphere, and I've come to meet some good friends," he said.

Last weekend, Mr. Doerry and the rest of the Blacksheep Bowmen held a sectionals competition on Elmendorf.

Some of the Bowmen even drove more than 300 miles away to compete. "All of us who wanted to compete, participated in the Northwest Sectionals

Saturday and Sunday," he said. "They can be held at any range, like Elmen-dorf's, that meets proper guidelines. So, we had some guys stay here to shoot and some who traveled to Fairbanks."

Mr. Rod Miland, Blacksheep presi-dent for the past five years and club member for 10, said the club has about 130 members. Of them, about 25 mem-bers were in the sectionals.

The event determined which archers represent the best in various archery categories in the Northwest U.S. The winners can go on to compete in na-tionals.

"This competition includes Alaska, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. It only happens once a year," said Mr. Miland. "At this point, the scores are being tallied up, and we'll find out how we did in a couple of weeks."

While the member's anxiously await their results, you can bet they'll be back at the range each Thursday honing their skills.

"We are an organization that doesn't disband," said Mr. Doerry. "As the weather gets warmer, our group con-tinues practicing, but we take it to the outdoor range to do some 3-D shooting, where we use foam animal targets."

"If we can get enough people, we'll also do an Indoor Fun League that will help people gain their proficiency, which is needed for their bowhunter's certification," said Mr. Miland.



**Archers tally their points in a 5-spot competition after round one. A total of 40 shots will be fired in this competition for the final score.**

For more information about the Blacksheep Bowmen and its archery programs for adults and youth (on Saturdays), go to their Web site at [www.blacksheeparchery.com](http://www.blacksheeparchery.com). People can also call 753-1855 for adult archery programs or 552-5887 for youth archery.